

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 10 beginning on line 17 with the following paragraph:

For example, the electronic assembly manufacturer's operation may be divided into a plurality of work centers each of which represents a certain step or phase of the assembly process. Data in the form of, for example, fixed or variable multipliers for each cost center are stored in the cost database 28. Hence, when information relating to a particular design of an electronic assembly is entered by the designer, the cost per work center may be calculated based on such information. Moreover, the time required in each work center of the ~~assembly process~~ assembly process may also be estimated based on the design. Typically, the longer the processing time, the more expensive the design is to produce. Hence, such timing information may be calculated and converted into cost data and stored in the cost database 28.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 20 beginning on line 11 with the following paragraph:

Once the designer has entered a desired amount of information relating to a given design of a electronic assembly, the designer may save the configuration of the design for subsequent comparison to other designs or modifications of the current design. In particular, the designer may click on a "SAVE OPTION 1" button 220 to save the current configuration of the design. The designer may then configure and save, for example, two more configurations by use of a "SAVE OPTION 2" button 222 and a "SAVE OPTION 3" button 224, respectively. Thereafter, if the designer clicks on a "GO TO SAVED" button 226, a summary page 228 is displayed, as shown in ~~FIGS. 174-176~~ FIG. 10. In such a way, multiple design configurations may be viewed side-by-side thereby allowing the designer to compare the impact of her or his changes. The summary page may be printed by use of "PRINT" button 230. Moreover, any one or all of the configurations may be cleared by selecting the appropriate "CLEAR" button 232. Note also that a "PRINT" button and a "CLEAR ALL" button are available on the main page of the user interface application. The summary page 228 also includes a "RETURN" button 234 for returning the designer to the main page of the user interface application 200.